

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /057 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/BR:RELTZ:RE

APPROVED BY ARA - HARYAN

AF:EWMULCAHY (DRAFT)

ARA/BR:RWZIMMERMANN (DRAFT)

ARA/PAF: PNIEBURG (DRAFT)

PM/SAS:DJAMES (SUBS)

PM/ISO:JFSCOTT (SUBS)

----- 102304

O R 041140Z JAN 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 001464

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:AO, BR, US, PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY QUOTED ON ANGOLA,
DEFENSE OF SOUTH ATLANTIC

REF: BRASILIA 0036

1. SUMMARY: THE VARIOUS QUOTES ATTRIBUTED BY O ESTADO DE
SAO PAULO TO DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MULCAHY EITHER
HAVE NO REPEAT NO BASIS IN ACTUAL EXCHANGE HELD WITH
CORRESPONDENT, ARE INACCURATE IN SIGNIFICANT RESPECTS, OR
HAVE BEEN UTILIZED ENTIRELY OUT OF CONTEXT. IN DISCUSSIONS
WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY, EMBASSY MAY POINT OUT EXAMPLES OF
THIS CITED BELOW. IN RESPONSE EMBASSY'S SPECIFIC QUERIES:
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IN NO APPROACH MADE TO BRAZILIANS WAS "BOOMERANG" METAPHOR

USED; AND NO REPEAT NO CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO SEEKING US MILITARY BASES IN BRAZIL OR ELSEWHERE IN SOUTH AMERICA OR TO INCREASED MILITARY AID FOR REGION. END SUMMARY.

2. O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO ACCOUNT OF BACKGROUND BRIEFING GIVEN BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MULCAHY TO O ESTADO CORRESPONDENT MELLO IS ALMOST TOTALLY INACCURATE. GREATEST PART OF ONE AND ONE QUARTER HOUR CONVERSATION WAS DEVOTED TO DISCUSSION OF CURRENT SITUATION WITHIN ANGOLA (WHERE MELLO HAD RECENTLY SPENT SOME TIME). IN BARE FIVE TO TEN

MINUTES SPENT ANSWERING DIRECT MELLO QUERIES ON IMPLICATIONS FOR BRAZIL AND GENERAL SECURITY OF SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION, MULCAHY IN FACT UNDERScoreD THAT SOUTH ATLANTIC SECURITY WAS ONLY ONE OF EXTENSIVE NUMBER OF ISSUES, AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN THAT PERSPECTIVE. NEITHER THE "BOOMERANG" METAPHOR NOR REFERENCES TO A LUANDA-RIO LINE FIGURED IN THIS EXPOSITION. NO REPEAT NO REFERENCE WAS MADE TO INCREASED US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS, AND THE ONLY BASE SITE MENTIONED IN CONVERSATION WAS DIEGO GARCIA -- WHICH MULCAHY CITED IN CONTEXT OF A GENERAL EXPLANATION OF IMPORTANCE OF CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATIONS IN FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF US POLICY AND STRONG OPPOSITION BY MANY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO ANY HINT OF AN EXTENSION OF OVERSEAS US MILITARY INVOLVEMENT.

3. INTERVIEW WAS GRANTED MELLO ON CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT IT WOULD BE ON BACKGROUND BASIS, AND HE WAS SPECIFICALLY REMINDED THAT THIS MEANT NO QUOTES. (MELLO TOOK, IN FACT, VERY FEW NOTES, WHICH MAY PARTIALLY ACCOUNT FOR FAILURE TO QUOTE (OR PARAPHRASE OR REFLECT CONTEXT) ACCURATELY.)

4. IN RESPONSE EMBASSY'S SPECIFIC QUESTIONS PARA 8 REFTEL: A) ONLY DIRECT USG-INITIATED APPROACH TO GOB PRIOR TO BRAZILIAN RECOGNITION OF MPLA WAS NOVEMBER 10 DISCUSSION BY DCM, ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS, WITH FONOFF CHIEF AFRICA DEPARTMENT (BRASILIA 9749) ADDITIONALLY, AS CONFIDENTIAL

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REPORTED STATE 265503, AMBASSADOR ARAUJO CASTRO CALLED ON DEPARTMENT ON NOVEMBER 5, AT HIS REQUEST, FOR BRIEFING ON DEVELOPMENTS AND US POSITION ON RECOGNITION QUPSTTON. THERE IS NO RECORD, OR RECOLLECTION, OF THE "BOOMERANG" TERMINOLOGY BEING USED IN EITHER OF THESE CONVERSATIONS. B) NO REPEAT NO SERIOUS CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO ESTABLISHMENT OF NAVAL OR OTHER MILITARY FACILITIES IN BRAZIL OR ELSEWHERE IN SOUTH AMERICA, NOR TO AN INCREASE

IN US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE REGION.

5. EMBASSY MAY DRAW ON ALL OF ABOVE IN DISCUSSING O
ESTADO ARTICLE WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS.

6.POTENTIAL VALUE OF O ESTADO ARTICLE IN POINTING OUT
AGAIN VALID US CONCERNS OVER ANGOLA SITUATION IS OBVIOUSLY
AND UNFORTUNATELY OFFSET BY THE INACCURACIES IN FACT AND
INTERPRETATION. IN REPLY TO PRESS INQUIRIES, EMBASSY
MAY UTILIZE FOLLOWING: AS THE ARTICLE POINTS OUT, THE
US IS CONCERNED OVER SOVIET AND CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA
MANY OF THE QUOTES ASCRIBED TO DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MULCAHY, HOWEVER, ARE INNACURATE OR OUT OF CONTEXT.

THERE WERE NORMAL DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES BETWEEN US AND
BRAZILIAN OFFICIALS IN THE DAYS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING
ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE WHICH INCLUDED COMMUNICATION OF US
POSITIONS AND CONCERNS; THESE EXCHANGES DID NOT, HOWEVER,
INCLUDE USE OF TERMINOLOGY SUCH AS "BOOMERANG EFFECTS."
THERE IS NO CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN BY THE USG
TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BASES OR FACILITIES IN BRAZIL OR
ELSEWHERE IN SOUTH AMERICA OR TO AN INCREASE IN MILITARY
ASSISTANCE TO THE REGION. (IF RAISED SPECIFICALLY) NO
PROTEST OR OFFICIAL EXPRESSION OF "SURPRISE" WAS MADE BY
USG FOLLOWING GOB RECOGNITION OF MPLA. THERE IS AN
ONGOING EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND VIEWS ON THE ANGOLA
SITUATION WITH MANY GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING BRAZIL.

7. FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION, ARA/PAF WILL EXPRESS TO
MELLO OUR CONCERN OVER HIS FAILURE TO ABIDE BY WELL
ESTABLISHED PRESS RULES FOR BACKGROUND BRIEFINGS, AND
OVER THE INACCURACIES IN THE ARTICLE. INGERSOLL

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